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ABSTRACT

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) recently unveiled a new Web site about the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), the "Nation's Report Card." This site (http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard) provides easy access to a wealth of assessment information about the condition of education in the United States, as well as student achievement results in reading, writing, mathematics, science, geography, the arts, and other subject areas. This brochure provides information about the structure of the Web site, highlights its features and applications, and provides step-by-step instructions on how to use and customize the information the site offers. (SLD)

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National Center for Education Statistics

National Assessment of Educational Progress

ED 435 649

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http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard

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Office of Educational Research and Improvement
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NCES 1999–457

Teachers

Researchers Administrators

Parents Policymakers

Students

THE NATION'S REPORT CARD

What is NAEP?

The National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) is mandated by Congress to continuously monitor the knowledge, skills, and performance of the nation's children and youth. As the "Nation's Report Card,™ NAEP has measured and reported on a regular basis what America's 4th, 8th, and 12th graders know and can do since 1969. It provides objective data about students' performance at national, regional and, as of 1990, state levels in reading, writing, mathematics, science, U.S. history, civics, geography, the arts, and other subjects.

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Would you like to know more about the educational achievement of our nation's youth?

http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) recently unveiled a new Web site about the National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP). This site provides easy access to a wealth of assessment information about the condition of education in our country, as well as student achievement results in reading, writing, mathematics, science, geography, the arts, and other subject areas. It is a lot of ground to cover, but thoughtful planning and a bit of creativity have made this site a user-friendly resource.

This brochure provides information about the structure of the Web site, highlights its features and applications, and provides step-by-step instructions on how to use and customize the information the site offers.

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Site Features and Applications

Using the latest Internet technology, the new Web site provides instant access to NAEP data and publications as well as NAEP's national and state student achievement results in various academic subjects.

Specifically, you can use the new Web site to:

- Select to view special sections tailored for various groups of key users of NAEP assessment information
- View or download assessment data related to student performance in any of the assessed subject areas
- Use NAEP assessments and frameworks to create or enhance your own assessment programs
- View and download past assessments' sample test questions, student responses, and scoring guides for use in your own classrooms, schools, or at home with your own children
- View summaries of the latest findings and student performance results
- View calendars of current NAEP events and participate in online discussions with leading assessment or subject-matter experts
- Communicate with other NAEP participants and learn how your state or jurisdiction can benefit from participating in NAEP
- Access various free NAEP publications and download copies for your own use

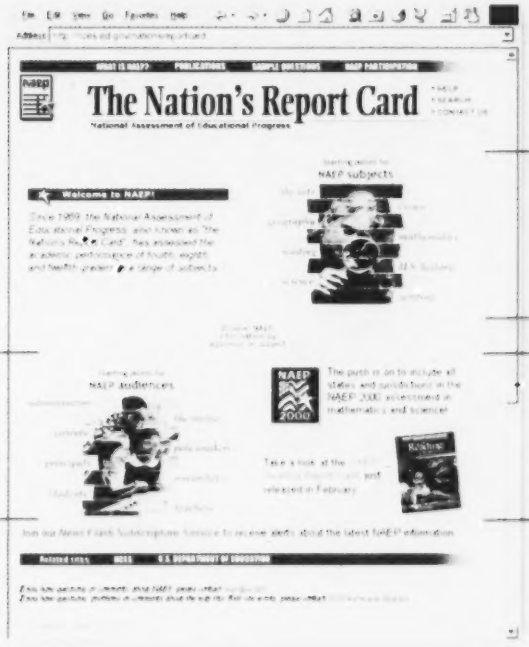
THE NATION'S REPORT CARD

Home Page

This is the first page you will see when you enter NAEP's Web site. From here, you will have access to all of the features that the site has to offer, including updated information about NAEP and NAEP products. Also accessible here are Help and Search Tools, and the following common links (found on every page):

- What is NAEP • NAEP Publications • Sample Questions
- NAEP Participation • NCES Web site
- The U.S. Department of Education Web site

Clicking on one of these categories gives users NAEP information by subject



Gives you NAEP information by "audience" group — specific users of NAEP data and results

Check here for the latest information on the next major assessment and recent publications

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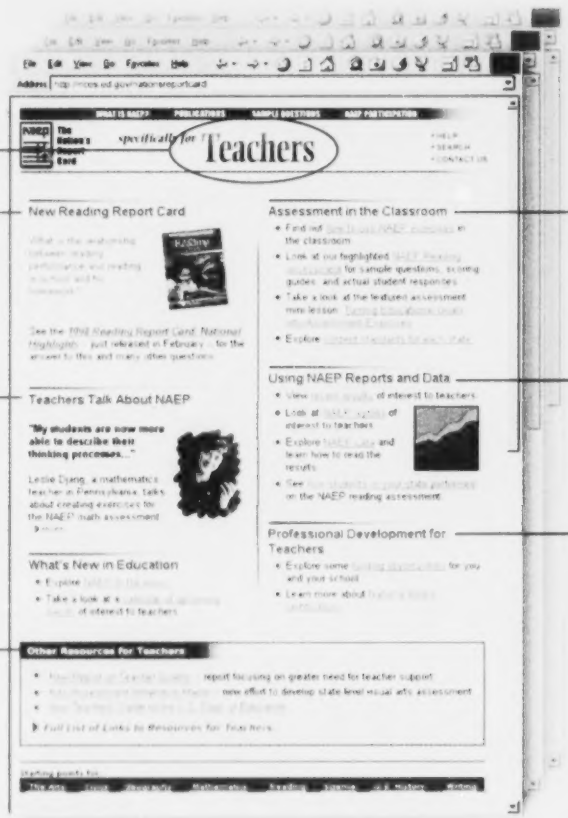
Audience Section

This section provides information about NAEP that different users can adapt or adopt for their own use. Revisit the NAEP Web site as other pages for different audience groups are added throughout the year.

Below is an example of what you can expect to find on each audience page:

This sample audience page is designed specifically for teachers


specifically for Teachers
New Reading Report Card
Assessment in the Classroom
Using NAEP Reports and Data
Teachers Talk About NAEP
"My students are now more able to describe their thinking processes..."
What's New in Education
Professional Development for Teachers
Other Resources for Teachers

Assessment practices teachers can use to fit their needs

Latest findings of interest to teachers

Recent results, reports, and data of interest to teachers

See what other teachers have to say about NAEP participation

Late-breaking NAEP news and events of interest to teachers

In this box users will find helpful resources

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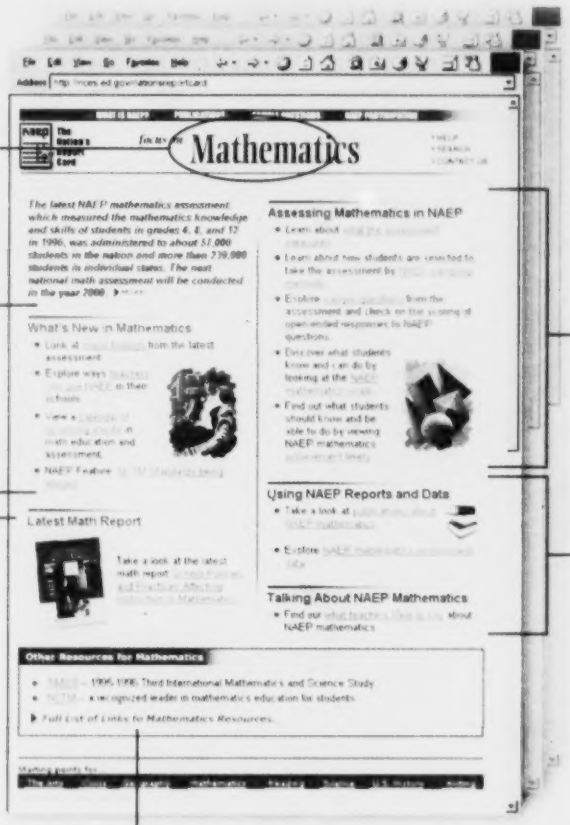
Subject Section

This section provides information related to the assessment of student performance in each assessed subject area, including the latest findings and assessment frameworks. Revisit the NAEP Web site as other pages for different subject areas are added throughout the year.

This sample page is about the assessment of student performance in mathematics



Current findings and news for mathematics, and an events calendar

Mathematics assessment information and access to the "Sample Questions Tool" (see p. 9)

Look here for reports on the given subject area

Look here for help using NAEP information, and to find out what others have to say about mathematics assessment

Helpful links to resources

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NAEP Site Map

http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard

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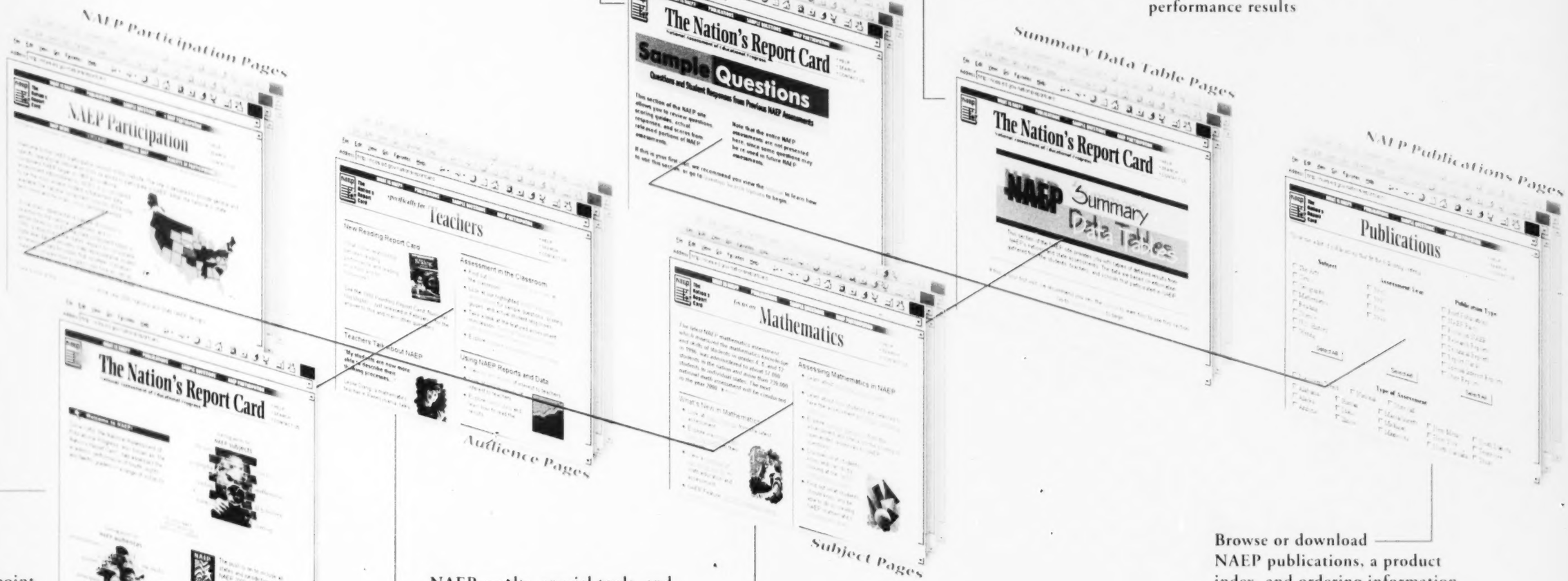
Look here for information on how your state or jurisdiction can participate in the next NAEP assessment

"Sample Questions Tool": View specific test questions, student responses, and scoring guides from the latest assessment

Summary tables of NAEP data and performance results



Your starting point for accessing NAEP data, results, tools, and more

NAEP results, special tools, and resources of interest for specific NAEP users:

- Teachers • Parents • Principals
- State and Local Administrators
- Policymakers • Researchers
- Journalists • Students

Access results from the latest NAEP assessment of a given subject:

- Reading • Writing • Mathematics
- Science • Geography • U.S. History
- Civics • The Arts

Browse or download NAEP publications, a product index, and ordering information

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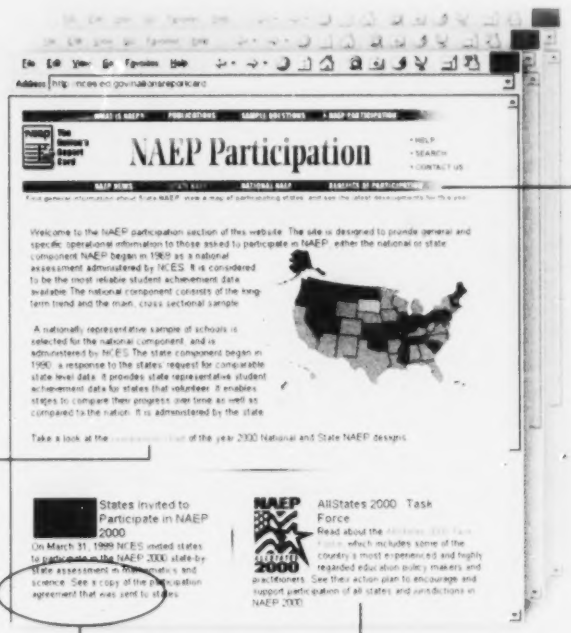
NAEP Participation Section

This section provides history and background information about the national assessment and state participation in NAEP. It also provides technical and operational information about NAEP 2000 — the next major state-by-state assessment in mathematics and science.

This navigation bar contains links to specific information regarding NAEP participation, including participation benefits and national and state assessments

Click here for a comparison of the national and state NAEP designs for the next assessment in the year 2000


NAEP Participation
Welcome to the NAEP participation section of this website. The site is designed to provide general and specific operational information to those asked to participate in NAEP, either the national or state component. NAEP began in 1969 as a national assessment administered by NCES. It is considered to be the most reliable student achievement data available. The national component consists of the long-term trend and the main, cross-sectional sample.
A nationally representative sample of schools is selected for the national component, and is administered by NCES. The state component began in 1990, a response to the states' request for comparable state-level data. It provides state-representative student achievement data for states that volunteer. It enables states to compare their progress over time as well as compared to the nation. It is administered by the state.
States invited to Participate in NAEP 2000
On March 31, 1999 NCES invited states to participate in the NAEP 2000 state-by-state assessment in mathematics and science. See a copy of the participation agreement that was sent to states.
AllStates 2000 Task Force
Read about the AllStates 2000 Task Force, which includes some of the country's most experienced and highly regarded education policy makers and practitioners. See their action plan to encourage and support participation of all states and jurisdictions in NAEP 2000.

An invitation for states to participate in NAEP 2000

Information about the AllStates 2000 Task Force

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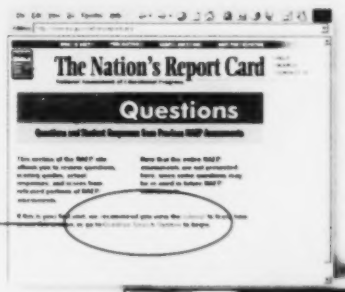
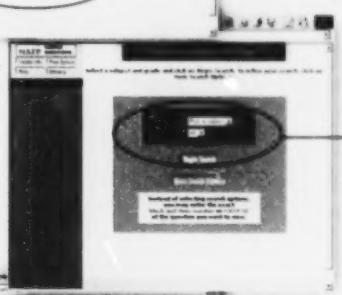
Sample Questions Tool

The "Sample Questions Tool" allows you to view actual NAEP test questions, corresponding student responses, and scoring guides from previous NAEP assessments. Use the steps below to get started. First-time users can also choose to start with the online tutorial.

1. Begin here either by choosing the tutorial or starting a search

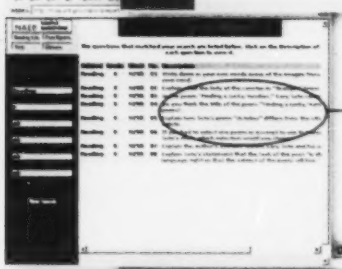


2. Choose a subject (e.g., Reading) and a grade to tailor your search results



Click in the corners for help, definitions of terms, and printing options

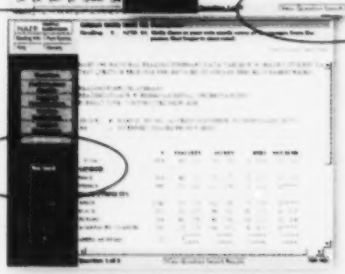
3. Click on any highlighted item in the search results to view the actual sample question



4. Click here for a breakdown of results for your chosen sample question

Actual reading sample

Sample test question



5. View your results, or click here to begin a new search

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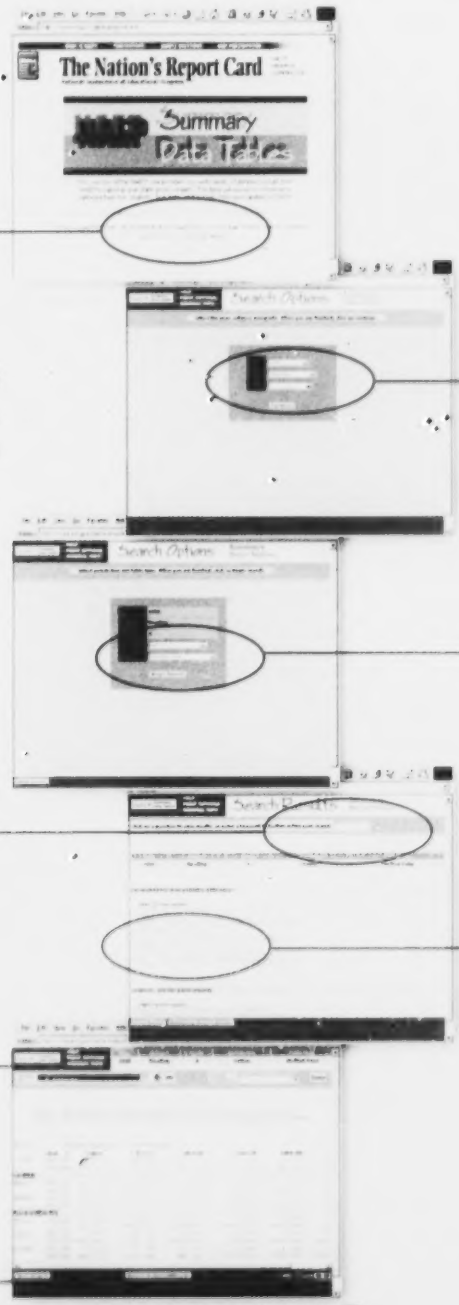
Summary Data Tables

The Summary Data Tables, accessible through any of the "subject" pages, is a search tool that enables users to view, compare, download, and print specific data tables from past NAEP assessments. Use the steps illustrated below to get started. First-time users can also choose to start with the online tutorial (see below).



1. Begin here either by choosing a tutorial or starting a search

2. Enter initial search criteria here (i.e., year, subject, and grade)

3. Enter more search criteria here (i.e., jurisdiction and table type)

4. Type in a key word (e.g., NAEP ID, location, and gender) to refine your search

5. Double-click on a result to view its data table

6. In this window, users can choose to modify the table, save the table to your hard drive, return to your search results, or start a new search

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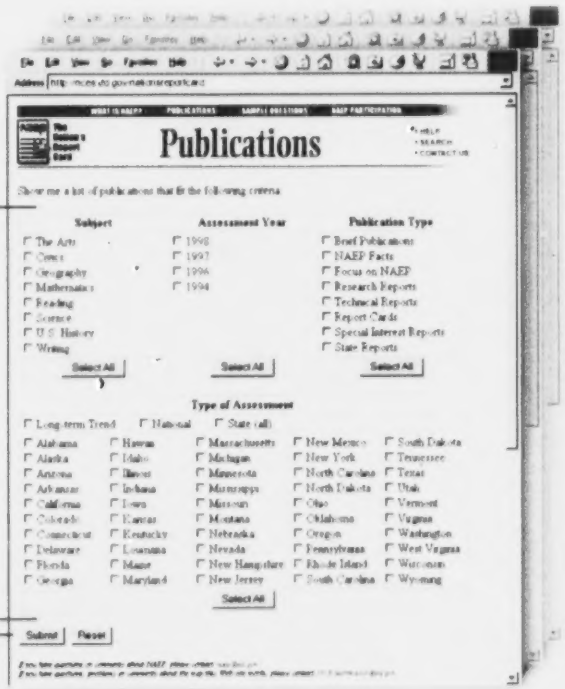
NAEP Publications Page

This page is accessible via the "Publications" link at the top of every screen. Users can search for any NAEP publication, or a group of publications, by specifying search criteria. An index of NAEP and NCES publications is also available at http://nces.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html (see also p. 12).

1. Check individual boxes or click on the "Select All" button under each section to specify your search criteria (e.g., subject, assessment year, publication type, and type of assessment)



2. Click on the "Submit" button to begin your search

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Other NAEP Publication Resources

To order printed copies of NAEP publications, you can contact:

Education Publications Center (ED Pubs)
http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html
Phone: (877) 4ED-PUBS (433-7827)
FAX: (301) 470-1244
Mail: ED Pubs
P.O. Box 1398
Jessup, MD 20794-1398

Government Printing Office (GPO)
http://www.access.gpo.gov/su_docs/sale/prf/prf.html
Phone: (202) 512-1800
Credit card orders may be faxed to: (202) 512-2250
Mail: New Orders
Superintendent of Documents
P.O. Box 371954
Pittsburgh, PA 15250-7954

Federal Depository Libraries
http://www.du.edu/~ttyler/pr00.htm

Contact Information

To contact NCES, call Bob Clemons at (202) 219-1690; or write to:

National Center for Education Statistics
U.S. Department of Education
555 New Jersey Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20208-5641

For questions about the NAEP Web site, contact Laurence Ogle via e-mail at: laurence_ogle@ed.gov

What is NCES?

The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) is the primary federal entity for collecting and analyzing data related to education in the United States and other nations.

Along with the National Assessment Governing Board (NAGB), which formulates policy guidelines for NAEP, NCES directs and oversees NAEP at the national level and coordinates assessment and related data collection activities with the states.

http://nces.ed.gov

http://nagb.org

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